

Message Text

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SUBJ: GOVERNMENTAL CHANGES ANNOUNCED

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED: SUMMARY: TWO MINISTERS OF PRESIDENT-ELECT APARICIO MENDEZ' CABINET AND THE SECRETARY TO THE PRESIDENCY WERE NAMED AUGUST 10. PROF. ANTONIO CANELLAS WILL BE MINISTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH, ING. EDUARDO SAMSPON WILL HEAD THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC WORKS, AND DR. LUIS VARGAS GARMENDIA WILL BE SECRETARY TO THE PRESIDENT. END SUMMARY.

2. IN ANTICIPATION OF THE SEPTEMBER 1 INAUGURATION OF PRESIDENT-ELECT APARICIO MENDEZ, THREE MEMBERS OF HIS PROPOSED CABINET WERE ANNOUNCED TO THE PRESS AUGUST 10.

3. PROF. ANTONIO CANELLAS WILL HEAD THE MINISTRY OF PUBLIC HEALTH, REPLACING DR. MARIO ARCOS PEREZ. CANELLAS, AN ANESTHESIOLOGIST WHO STUDIED IN ENGLAND, HAS STRONG INTERESTS IN RADIO BROADCASTING AND MUSIC. PREVIOUS PUBLIC SERVICE INCLUDES TWO TERMS REPRESENTING THE COLORADO PARTY AS A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SODRE, THE NATIONAL CULTURAL ORGANIZATION. PRESENTLY, CANELLAS HOLDS THE RANK OF FULL PROFESSOR (CHAIR) AND DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANESTHESIOLOGY OF THE FACULTY OF MEDICINE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF THE REPUBLIC, AS WELL AS DIRECTOR OF THE DE-
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PARTMENT OF SPECIAL TREATMENT AT THE MILITARY HOSPITAL. WITH

THE GOVERNMENT INTERVENTION OF THE UNIVERSITY, CANELLAS WAS DESIGNATED A MEMBER OF THE HONORARY COUNCIL AND ASSESSOR IN THE OFFICE OF THE DEAN--INTERVENOR OF THE FACULTY OF MEDICINE. CANELLAS IS 59 YEARS OLD, MARRIED TO LEONOR ZEBALLOS AND HAS A 16 YEAR OLD SON. IN HIS MUSICAL CAREER HE STUDIED VIOLIN WITH THE NOTED AND ESTEEMED URUGUAYAN COMPOSER, EDUARDO FABINI. ALTHOUGH BORN IN DURAZNO, CANELLAS WAS EDUCATED IN MINAS BEFORE ENTERING THE FACULTY OF MEDICINE. IN HIS YOUTH, CANELLAS HAD A SHORT BUT SUCCESSFUL RADIO CAREER WITH SODRE IN URUGUAY AND BBC IN LONDON.

4. ING. EDUARDO SAMPSON REPLACES ING. EDUARDO CRISPO AYALA AS MINISTER OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC WORKS. SAMPSON STUDIED HIGHWAY ENGINEERING AND AIR TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURES IN THE U.S. FOR TWO YEARS AND HAS HELD A NUMBER OF PUBLIC WORKS POSTS IN VARIOUS PARTS OF URUGUAY FOLLOWING TEN YEARS OF ENGINEERING WORK IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR. SAMPSON WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS RELATED TO THE PUNTA DEL ESTE CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS, INCLUDING REPAVING AND REPAIRING THE COASTAL HIGHWAY, AS WELL AS IMPORTANT ROUTES WITHIN THE CITY OF PUNTA DEL ESTE ITSELF. THIS WORK ESTABLISHED HIS REPUTATION IN PUBLIC WORKS, AND SAMPSON LATER WAS HIRED BY THE INTENDENTE OF LAVALLEJA FOR A SIMILAR TASK. DURING 1973, SAMPSON WAS HIRED BY THE DIRECTORATE OF NATIONAL AIRPORTS FOR THE PROJECT OF CONSTRUCTING THE ALTERNATIVE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT OF SANTA BERNARDINA, THE AIRPORT OF THE CITY OF RIVERA AND THE REMODELING OF EL JOGUEL. ING. SAMPSON IS 43, MARRIED, AND RECEIVED HIS CIVIL ENGINEERING DEGREE IN 1957.

5. REPLACING DR. LEONEL MARTINEZ THEDY AS SECRETARY TO THE PRESIDENCY OF THE REPUBLIC WILL BE DR. LUIS VARGAS, SON OF THE LATE DR. ALVARA VARGAS GUILLEMETTE, BLANCO POLITICIAN AND MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT 1952-55. HE IS PRESENTLY SUBSECRETARY TO THE MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR. VARGAS PREVIOUSLY HELD THE POSTS OF ASSESSOR AND LAWYER OF THE NATIONAL DAIRY COOPERATIVE, DIRECTOR OF INDICTMENTS OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE OF MONTEVIDEO, ASSESSOR OF THE MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR AND DIRECTOR OF MIGRATION WITHIN THE SAME MINISTRY. HE ORIGINALLY ENTERED THE MINISTRY IN 1962 THROUGH CONFIDENTIAL

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A BLANCO PARZA APPOINTMENT. VARGAS IS MARRIED TO MARIA ANTONIETA MUNOZ ARTEAGA AND HAS SIX CHILDREN. END UNCLASSIFIED.

BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL. VARGAS IS KNOWN TO BE AN ARCH CONSERVATIVE WHO HAS BEEN CRITICAL OF THE CURRENT U.S. POLICY WHICH PREVENTS ASSISTANCE TO LOCAL PRISONS, AS WELL AS THE ELIMINATION OF THE AID PUBLIC SAFETY PROGRAM. HE IS MENTIONED MANY TIMES IN PHILLIP AGEE'S BOOK WHERE HE IS

DEPICTED AS A GOU OFFICIAL WHO COOPERATED WITH AGEE IN PROMOTING THE EXPULSION OF COMMUNIST BLOC REPRESENTATIVES FROM URUGUAY IN THE LATE 1960'S. END CONFIDENTIAL
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